

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INT-08 FEA-02 SCI-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 CEA-02 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01

OMB-01 ARA-16 NEA-10 AF-10 EA-11 DRC-01 /220 W

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R 161655Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8330

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG, EC, DA

SUBJ: DANISH CONCERN OVER EC ENERGY POLICY

BEGIN SUMMARY. BOTH FOREIGN MINISTER GULDBERG AND
PREVIOUS MINISTER FOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, NORGAAARD,
HAVE PUBLICLY CRICIZED FRENCH, FRG AND UK FOR THEIR
BILATERAL OIL DEALS AND MADE CLEAR THEIR DISSATISFAC-
TION WITH STATUS OF EC ENERGY POLICY. MFA EXPECTS
DENMARK TO BE REPRESENTED AT WASHINGTON CONFERENCE
BY EITHER FOEIGN MINISTER OR MINISTER OF COMMERCE
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AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. END SUMMARY.

1. FONMIN GULDBERG AND FORMER FORNECONMIN NORGAARD HAVE, OVER PAST FEW DAYS, FILLED DANISH PRESS WITH ACERB COMMENTS ON LACK OF PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING COOPERATIVE EC ENERGY POLICY. NORGAARD IS NOW POLITICAL COMMENTATOR FOR POLITIKEN (INDEPENDENT DAILY) AS WELL AS MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT. HE STARTED CURRENT PUBLIC DEBATE WITH LENGTHY JANUARY 13 ARTICLE IN WHICH, INTER ALIA, HE CRITICIZED BILATERAL DEALS FOR OIL BY EC COUNTRIES AND CHARGED FRANCE, FRG AND UK WITH OPERATING "AT EDGE OF ROME TREATY," WHICH PROVIDES FOR COMMON TRADE POLICY. HE SAID THAT FOR COUNTRIES LIKE DENMARK, UNABLE TO MAKE SUCH DEALS, THIS WOULD MEAN WEAKENED COMPETITIVE POSITION AND GREATER PROBABILITY OF CURRENCY DEVALUATION. HE PROPOSED THAT EC REVERSE PRESENT TENDENCIES BY AGREEING ON (A) JOINT COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES, (B) COMMON ENERGY POLICY, AND (C) DEVELOPMENT OF EXISTING AND NEW SOURCES OF ENERGY. HE DOUBTED THAT COMMUNITY IS SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR SUCH ARRANGEMENTS AND PROPOSED INCLUDING NORTH AMERICA AND JAPAN. HE FOUND THE PRESIDENT'S ENERGY PROPOSALS "REASONABLE" AND THOUGHT THEY SHOULD BE WELCOMED BY EC.

2. IN JANUARY 14 COMMENT ALSO IN POLITIKEN, ON NORGAARD ARTICLE, FORNMIN GULDBERG SAID HE VIEWED EC ENERGY SITUATION, IF ANYTHING, MORE GRAVELY THAN NORGAARD. WHILE HE THOUGHT CRISIS NOT ACUTE ("WE MAY MANAGE FOR SOME TIME WITH REDUCED SUPPLIES AND HIGH PRICES"), LONGER TERM PERSPECTIVES ARE SERIOUS. HE FELT THAT NO SENSIBLE EUROPEAN SOLUTION CAN BE REACHED WITHOUT AGREEMENT AMONG NINE COMMUNITY MEMBERS. GULBERG WAS ASKED WHETHER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ON ENERGY FELL WITHIN ROME TREATY. HIS ANSWER WAS EQUIVOCAL BUT HE DID NOT REJECT POSSIBILITY THAT THEY COULD BE CONTRARY TO ROME TREATY.

3. IN JANUARY 15 ARTICLE, POLITIKEN REPORTED THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BRITISH SPOKESMEN HAD "UNOFFICIALLY" TERMED NORGAARD AND GULBERG STATEMENTS ABOUT THE ROME TREATY AS ILL-CONSIDERED. BRITISH SOURCES REPORTEDLY FELT THAT BILATERAL AGREEMENTS THEY ARE NEGOTIATING WOULD STABILIZE OIL PRICES FOR EVERYONE AND THAT BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS IS TO INCREASE OIL PRODUCTION TO PREVIOUS LEVELS BY OFFERING FAVORABLE TRADE AGREEMENTS. THEY MAINTAINED THAT BRITISH BILATERAL

NEGOTIATIONS VIOLATED NEITHER LETTER NOR SPIRIT OF ROME TREATY AND THAT BRITISH BILATERAL AGREEMENTS MAY SERVE EVENTUALLY AS MODEL FOR EC ONCE IT HAS COMMON ENERGY POLICY.

4. FONMIN GULDBERG (JANUARY 16 BERLINGSKE TIDENDE) TOLD PRESS AFTER EC COUNCIL MEETING HE HAD TOLD COUNCIL FORCEFULLY THAT DENMARK HAS SERIOUS ENERGY PROBLEM AND CONSIDERS EC ENERGY DISCUSSIONS TEST CASE FOR DANISH EXPECTATIONS OF COMMUNITY AND ITS ABILITY TO ADVANCE IN NEW FIELDS OF COOPERATION. HE SAID HE WISHED TO MAKE CLEAR TO BRITAIN THAT IT CANNOT BLOCK EC'S ENERGY COOPERATION BECAUSE AGREEMENT HAD NOT BEEN REACHED ON REGIONAL FUND. HE ALSO BELIEVED THAT COMMON ENERGY POLICY IS NOT ADVANCED WHEN THREE LARGEST EC MEMBER STATES MAKE SEPARATE ARRANGEMENTS WITH OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES. EMBASSY'S MFA CONTACTS IMPLY THAT GULDBERG MAY NOT HAVE BEEN AS FORCEFUL WITHIN COUNCIL AS HE WAS LATER IN RELATING HIS EXPLOITS TO PRESS. DANES ARE SENSITIVE, HOWEVER, ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF BEING OUTSMARTED BY THEIR LARGER EC NEIGHBORS AND GULBERG'S REPORTED STAND WILL PROBABLY EVOKE A FAVORABLE RESPONSE HERE.

5. WITH REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE FRENCH RELUCTANCE TO ATTEND WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE, ONE MFA SOURCE (RIBERHOLDT) TOLD US THAT FRENCH POSITION THROUGHOUT COUNCIL MEETING WAS THAT FRENCH PRESIDENT HAD NOT MADE UP HIS MIND ON WHETHER FRANCE WOULD ATTEND WASHINGTON MEETING. ACCORDINGLY, FRENCH HAD NO COMMENT ON THEIR LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION IF THEY SHOULD ATTEND. HE ADDED THAT THERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WAS SOME DISCUSSION AT COUNCIL ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT SOME COUNTRIES WOULD BE REPRESENTED AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL, BUT NOT BY FOREIGN MINISTERS. IN DANISH CASE, ACCORDING TO FOREIGN MINISTER'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT, NOT LIKELY DANISH REP IF GULDBERG DECIDES NOT TO ATTEND IS COMMERCE AND ECONOMY MINISTER PUL NYBOE ANDERSEN.
DUNNIGAN

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